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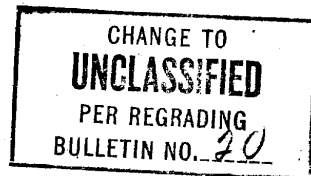
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SUMMARY

Armed forces day, 23 February, gets the usual wide publicity on the Home Service. Most of the central and regional comment on this topic stresses the need for increased attention to the military establishment whose importance is said to be further enhanced by the recent manifestations of capitalist hostility, such as the organization of espionage and subversion within the USSR.

More and better ideological propaganda is urged in the press and on the radio, the claim being made that the press is not fully utilized toward that end. The intensification of the vigilance campaign is implicit in the appeal to parents to see that the children are prevented from inheriting (unasledovanie) bourgeois customs and habits, and to explain to them the absurdity and uselessness of religious rituals.

The severance of diplomatic relations with Israel is followed by the "inclusion" of that State as an active participant in the U.S. "warmongering" activities, especially in regard to attempts at undermining Soviet power. This claim is "supported" by accounts of fascistization of life in Israel on U.S. orders which are calculated to fit that country into the general pattern of anti-Soviet activities.

KOMMUNIST's warning against violations of intra-Party democracy--such as co-opting Party officials instead of electing them--is coupled with dark hints at the dangerous possibility of "groupings" (gruppovshchina) emerging within the Party. Stricter control over the admission of members to the Communist Party and more attention to the political qualifications of those already there provide the gist for extensive regional discussion.

In what appears to be a concerted but short-term campaign against the continued backwardness of operatic music, the central papers, duly echoed by the regional transmitters, revive the claim that the long condemned "no-conflict theory" is apparently not yet dead and that it accounts for the production of dull and worthless music. Implicitly reiterated in this connection is the belief that music and ideology are inseparable, and that a proper political education is indispensable for all composers.

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